

**ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, April 27, 2020**

The meeting of the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee was held on Monday, April 27, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., via Zoom. The following members were present: Commissioner Markley, Chairman; Commissioners Philbrook, Kane, Ramirez (joined in sometime during the first item), and Bynum. The following officials were also in attendance via Zoom: Ken Moore, Chief Legal Counsel; Bridgette Cobbins, UG Clerk; Gordon Criswell, Alan Howze and Emerick Cross, Assistant County Administrators; Terri Garrison, Interim Director of Public Health; Wesley McKain, Health Dept. Program Supervisor; Bianca Garcia, Health Dept. Program Coordinator; and Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer.

Chairman Markley said before I call the meeting to order, I want to announce that due to COVID-19, the committee members, staff, and public are attending remotely via Zoom. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise.

During the meeting, make sure you announce yourself by name and title when you speak so the public that is observing knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants and is current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General.

Due to COVID-19 requirements, public comment has been suspended unless otherwise required by law. The public has been allowed to submit comments by email prior to the meeting and those comments will be read into the meeting.

Chairman Markley said I will announce that the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee scheduled for this evening, has been cancelled, due to lack of items. Therefore, we will proceed to call the meeting of the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee to order.

Roll call was taken and all members were present as shown above.

Chairman Markley said there are no revisions to tonight's agenda.

Approval of standing committee minutes from February 24, 2020. **On motion of Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, the minutes were approved.** Roll call was taken and there were four “Ayes,” Philbrook, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Committee Agenda:

Item No. 1 – GRANT: HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION-TEEN VAPING PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

Synopsis: Request to apply for and accept, if granted, a \$58,000 grant from the Health Forward Foundation to implement a Behind the Haze behavior change media campaign in response to the rising trend of vaping, submitted by Terrie Garrison, Interim Director of Public Health. This campaign is in conjunction with Johnson County Health & Environment and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. No match required.

Terri Garrison, Interim Director of Public Health, said I am going to turn it immediately over to Wesley to introduce his employee, Bianca Garcia. **Wesley McKain, Health Dept. Program Supervisor,** said Bianca is—I don’t know if any of you know or knew Rebecca Garza. She was our Tobacco Coordinator at the Health Department for three years. Bianca, after Rebecca left to go to the west coast, we needed a new person and got the in comparable Bianca Garcia to serve as our Tobacco Coordinator. She has a very, very, very short overview of the grant that she wrote and submitted in partnership with the Johnson County Health Department. Then you all can decide on it. I’ll just go ahead and pass it over to Bianca.

Bianca Garcia, Health Dept. Program Coordinator, said I have a short overview just to give you an idea of what the grant is for. If awarded, the purpose of this applicant defined grant is to fund a Teen Vaping Prevention Campaign called Behind the Haze. The campaign is in partnership with Johnson County Department of Health & Environment and the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas.

The total cost of the campaign would be about \$420,000, but the grant application is only for about 14% of that. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas is providing most of the funds for their coverage area. Unfortunately, that leaves out Johnson County and Wyandotte County. Between

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our two counties, our youth make up about a quarter of the state's youth population. So, the grant would ensure that we are a part of that statewide campaign and that we're receiving the same public health message.

There is no match required for this grant since Blue Cross Blue Shield is contributing most of the funds.

The greatest benefit about the campaign is that everything has already been done: the research; the content creation. All we need to do is supply the funding to be included.

I did want to make one last point about the relevance. I know right now the main priority is COVID-19, but more and more studies have shown that smoking and vaping puts individuals at a higher risk of developing more severe COVID-19 infections. This would be an ideal time to really put that message forward due to the nature of the stay at home order. As well, during quarantine, there's an increase of social media usage, streaming, our youth are also at home so, implementing the campaign now would definitely increase our reach and our engagement.

I hope that's enough details. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Chairman Markley asked, any questions from the Commission?

Commissioner Bynum said first of all, thank you very much for the work that you're doing and the grant application. I think I missed or misunderstood what you said at the very beginning. Blue Cross Blue Shield, is that correct, is funding part of this? **Mrs. Garcia** said yes. **Commissioner Bynum** said and yet, somehow Johnson and Wyandotte—I'm missing out on some piece of that funding. So, this application is going to then come in and help us be a part of the effort. Am I right? Is that what you said? **Mrs. Garcia** said yes, yes, correct. So, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas is funding the larger project, but since we're under Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City, that doesn't include our coverage area so it's up to us to find the funds so that we can participate.

Commissioner Bynum asked, who all? Is the whole state of Kansas participating? **Mrs. Garcia** said yes, every county but Wyandotte and Johnson County. **Commissioner Bynum** said oh, my gosh. Okay. Will, I mean, obviously, I support the grant application. It's just frustrating given that in a place like Wyandotte County where we might need that message more than

anywhere else in the state, and we don't automatically get to participate. We've got to go find our own funding. **Mrs. Garcia** said yes.

Action: **Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to support the grant application.**

Commissioner Philbrook said I also want to say something. Yes, Melissa, it does stink that we're left out, but it has all to do with the insurance areas. That's kind of the bottom-line. We're part of the metro area, which is KC Blue Cross Blue Shield, actually Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City. Just join in with the rest of the practitioners in the moaning and groaning of having to deal with that over a lot of years. It's been a pain in the behind. I'm glad you guys could go after the monies.

What do you think our chances are of actually getting this grant? **Mrs. Garcia** said we are definitely hopeful. The multiple COVID-19 relief grant applications may be an issue, but we tried to put together as best a grant application as possible, tried to prove the link, the need and also the support that we already have. I'm hoping that gives us a better chance.

Commissioner Philbrook asked, did I miss the information what the timeline on this is? **Mrs. Garcia** said I didn't state that in my overview, but it's about a year timeline. There would be two phases of campaigns going out, one in the spring and one in the fall. Then we would get analytics at the beginning of next year. **Commissioner Philbrook** asked, so it's still this year yet, not next year? **Mrs. Garcia** said yes. **Commissioner Philbrook** asked, you're putting in for money pretty quickly? **Mrs. Garcia** said yes. **Commissioner Philbrook** said okay. I just wanted to make sure what that was because you know how some of this stuff runs year after year and you don't know exactly when they're supposed to be putting the money out. So, we should be knowing within the next 60 days? **Mrs. Garcia** said yes. **Commissioner Philbrook** said okay.

Ms. Garrison asked, Bianca, is Johnson County putting in an applicant defined grant with Health Forward as well for their share, or where is their funding coming from? **Mrs. Garcia** said Johnson County received funding from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment.

That's where a part of their share came from. We agreed to partner and put forward one grant application from Wyandotte.

Chairman Markley asked, Clerk, did you receive any comments from the public? Okay, she's shaking her head no.

Chairman Markley said I think we had a motion and second. Is that right? Alright. Roll call on that motion. (The Clerk encountered audio difficulties and could not be heard.) Should I roll call for her? **Commissioner Kane** said yes. **Chairman Markley** said I don't know what order I'm supposed to go in. Roll call was taken and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, Kane, Bynum Ramirez, Markley.

(Prior to calling Commissioner Ramirez during roll call, Chairman Markley said I noticed Commissioner Ramirez joined us and I think you got to hear at least part of the presentation. Commissioner Ramirez said yes, I did.)

Adjourn

Chairman Markley adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

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